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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/612,593	07/01/2003	Jong-Hyun Choi	5484-103	6174
7590 07/26/2004				
MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C. 1030 S.W. Morrison Street Portland, OR 97205			EXAMINER TRAN, MICHAEL THANH	
			ART UNIT 2818	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/612,593

Applicant(s)

CHOI ET AL.

Examiner

Michael t Tran

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 and 16 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11 and 13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 12, 14 and 15 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>070703</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. In response to the Communications dated July 07, 2003, claims 1-16 are active in this application.

Foreign Priority

2. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a) (d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed July 07, 2003 has been considered.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 12 and 14-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

6. Claims 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Kajigaya et al. [U.S. Patent #5,426,616].

With respect to claim 11, Kajigaya et al. discloses, in figure 3, a method of selecting reference voltages in a semiconductor memory device that has a plurality of reference generators [21 and 22] for generating first and second reference voltages [Vr1 and Vr2], an internal voltage generator [25] for receiving the first or second reference voltage and generating an internal voltage source of a constant level [Vr1'], and a high voltage generator [26] for receiving and boosting the first or second reference voltage and generating a high voltage of a given level, said method comprising the step of: selecting one reference voltage out of the first and second reference voltages to input to the high voltage generator in response to a reference voltage selection signal supplied to the device [this is done via element 23 and that the feedback is interpreted as input to the high voltage generator]. It is noted that a "high" voltage can be interpreted as being any voltage higher than zero.

With respect to claim 13, Kajigaya et al. discloses, in figure 3, that the

power that directly controls the device is inputted through a pad.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-10 and 16 are allowable over the prior art of record.

8. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the prior art of records does not show (in addition to the other elements in the claim) the following:

- ❖ A controller to output first and second reference voltage switching selection signals, to select the reference voltage in response to a reference voltage selection signal supplied to the device; a second switch to supply the second reference voltage to the high voltage generator in response to the second reference voltage switching selection signal.
- ❖ A controller to output first through fourth switching selection signals, to select the first or second reference voltage in response to a reference voltage selection signal supplied to the device; and a fourth switch to supply the second reference voltage to the high voltage generator in response to the fourth switching selection signal.
- ❖ Further comprising selecting one reference voltage out of the first and second reference voltages to input to the internal voltage generator in response to the reference voltage selection signal.
- ❖ Wherein said reference voltage selection signal is input to the device through a fuse option circuit.

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- ❖ Wherein said reference voltage selection signal is input to the device through a mode register set node.
- ❖ Control circuitry to supply different combinations of reference voltage generator output to the internal voltage generator and the internal high voltage generator, depending on a reference voltage selection signal supplied to the device.

Conclusion

9. When responding to the Office action, Applicants are advised to provide the Examiner with line and page numbers of the application and/or references cited to assist the Examiner in the prosecution of this case.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Michael T. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1795. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30-6:00 P.M.

11. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1650.



Michael T. Tran
Art Unit 2818
July 23, 2004